

Huskers Hang Tough

Lincoln, Ne. — If forced to make a choice, Nebraska head football coach Tom Osborne says he'd rather start slow and finish strong than start strong and finish slow.

That isn't to say Osborne was pleased with the way his Cornhuskers played in the first half of their 31-15 Big Eight victory over Kansas last Saturday afternoon in Memorial Stadium. Nebraska did, however, show the mark of a champion by recovering from its sluggish start and some offensive mistakes to remain the only undefeated and untied team in conference play.

Though KU placekicker Bruce Kallmeyer tied a Memorial Stadium record by kicking five field goals, Nebraska's defense kept the Jayhawks out of the end zone. The Cornhuskers now have gone five games in a row without allowing a touchdown, something which no Nebraska defense has done since 1910.

In the words of junior middle guard Jeff Merrell, the NU defense "bent, but it didn't break."

It was the defense which got the Husker offense rolling, too. Nebraska's first score, a 32-yard field goal by Eddie Neal, was set up by a Merrell fumble recovery, and the Huskers' first two touchdowns, both of which were scored by Phil Bates, followed Kansas turnovers.

Cornerback Rodney Lewis, getting his first start since the Penn State game, intercepted a pass and returned it 31 yards to set up the first, and linebacker Brent Evans recovered a fumble, caused by Lewis and safety Jeff Krejci, to set up the second.

Nebraska got a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns to ice the game, the first a 17-yard pass from Turner Gill to tight end Jamie Williams, and the second a 49-yard run by I-back Mike Rozier with 1:25 left in the game. Rozier, a sophomore from Camden, N.J., was the game's

leading rusher with 179 yards on 22 carries.

Evans was credited with 19 tackles to pace NU's Black Shirt defense.

NEBRASKA 31, KANSAS 15		Time Left
How They Scored		
FIRST QUARTER		
3- 0	Field Goal, Kallmeyer 25 yards Drive: 3 yards in 4 plays.	9:35
SECOND QUARTER		
3- 3	Field Goal, Neil 32 yards Drive: 50 yards in 9 plays.	10:13
6- 3	Field Goal, Kallmeyer 27 yards Drive: 82 yards in 12 plays.	5:20
9- 3	Field Goal, Kallmeyer 49 yards Drive: 98 yards in 10 plays.	0:06
THIRD QUARTER		
9-10	Bates 2 run (Seibel kick) Drive: 15 yards in 5 plays.	9:54
12-10	Field Goal, Kallmeyer 49 yards Drive: 80 yards in 12 plays.	5:04
12-17	Bates 3 run (Seibel kick) Drive: 26 yards in 3 plays.	2:03
FOURTH QUARTER		
15-17	Field Goal, Kallmeyer 47 yards Drive: 74 yards in 10 plays.	12:36
15-24	Williams 17 pass from Gill (Seibel kick) Drive: 62 yards in 9 plays.	9:14
15-31	Rozier 49 yard run (Seibel kick) Drive: 50 yards in 2 plays.	1:25

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Weekly Dated Material
Please Rush!



Jimmy Williams makes the hit on this Kansas ball carrier as the NU defense turned away touchdowns for the fifth straight game.



Phil Bates fights for short yardage against a Kansas defense which played tough early.



Mike Rozier hits daylight and gallops 49 yards for the final Husker score.



This Kansas ball carrier drew a crowd of Huskers, led by Toby Williams.



Turner Gill is set to make the handoff to Mike Rozier as Dan Hurley (73) leads the blocking.



Mike Rozier carries tacklers with him as he fights for extra yardage.

Lockerroom Chatter



The Huskers

Tom Osborne, head coach — "That's the best Kansas team we've played in four or five years. They moved the ball up and down the field on us far too easily. I thought if we had an edge, it would be up front, but they controlled the line of scrimmage throughout the first half. When you're favored over the other team, if you can make things happen early, you can take command. But we gave them encouragement. The early part of a game is so critical. We can't rely each week on making the kind of comeback we made against Kansas. If we don't play any better than we did today, we may not win any of our last three games."

Phil Bates, fullback — "Mike Rozier and Roger Craig are the ones who opened up the middle for me. They're such tremendous threats. I guess Kansas didn't believe I could run. I had a couple of long runs today (Saturday), but I haven't gone all the way yet. When Rozier and Craig get in the open like that, it's almost an automatic touchdown for them."

Rodney Lewis, cornerback — "I played this game for Rodney Lewis. People have said I should play well for the pro scouts or for this and that. Today, I just wanted to play a game for myself, play the way I know how and not care about all that other stuff. That's the way it's going to be for the last three games. If I come up short of somebody else's expectations, I'm sorry."

Jamie Williams, tight end — "We can't think about anyone now except Oklahoma State. We have to play it one game at a time. Any team can beat you on a given day. We didn't push the offensive button until the second half. They were blitzing a lot the first half, and we caught them with it in the second half."

Henry Waechter, defensive tackle — "Maybe our concentration broke down, but poor tackling can be one of any number of reasons. We'll just have to work harder this week. We weren't as aggressive as we've been the last few weeks; at least I know I wasn't."

Dave Rimington, center — "We'd had a good week of practice but got off to a slow start. Sometimes no matter how hard you try, it doesn't seem to work. I thought we weren't fired up enough, but you can't stay up every week like we were against Missouri."

The Jayhawks

Don Fambrough, head coach — "We didn't come up here to play them a close ball game or to say that we played them a good football game. We came to win and got beat by a hell of a football team. Nebraska did one hell of a job. They came back. Maybe we caught them a little flat. I don't know. That's their business. They're a fine football team. When they had to do it, they put it together. They had enough poise and enough discipline that they could come back and get us."

Tim Freiss, strong safety — "Oklahoma has the quicker backs, but Bates, Rozier and Craig run harder than any backs we've seen this year. It's got to be a tossup."

David Lawrence, offensive guard — "Nebraska's defensive line came off the ball; they're big and physical, but we pretty much got after it, too. That's all it took was a couple of mistakes in the fourth quarter. We had one too many fumbles that broke the defense's back."

Bruce Kallmeyer, placekicker — "All my field goals seemed to be good without any doubts. It was just like kicking at home during practice. I kicked the two 49 yarders with the wind, but against the wind, I had to drill the ball a little more. I was glad to get the opportunities. It's too bad we didn't get the points we needed to win. I was in a confident streak, and I thought our chances were good for winning."

Frank Seurer, quarterback — "We wanted to win, and I was confident out there we could today. We were not surprised we played Nebraska close. We were only disappointed we didn't end up on top."

Oregg Smith, noseguard — "We were the only ones in the world that thought we could win. Their fans didn't have much to cheer about the first half, but the second half they woke up and their fans kept them awake."

Season Stats

TEAM	Neb.	Opp.
First downs rushing	138	62
First downs passing	37	37
First downs penalty	3	4
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	178	103
Attempts rushing	484	370
Yards gained rushing	2819	1377
Yards lost rushing	128	312
NET YARDS RUSHING	2691	1065
Passes attempted	132	141
Passes completed	61	65
Passes had intercepted	8	11
NET YARDS PASSING	841	722
Total plays	616	511
TOTAL YARDAGE	3525	1787
Interception return yards	122	69
Punts-Yards	32-1375	59-2569
Punting average	43.0	43.5
Punts had blocked	1	0
Punt returns-yards	30-292	8-78
Kickoff returns-yds.	11-211	19-280
Penalties-yards	42-389	30-233
Fumbles-fumbles lost	36-19	31-16

INDIVIDUAL RUSHING

	att.	yds.	lost	net yds.	avg.	long	gain
Roger Craig	132	793	8	785	5.9	94	FS
Mike Rozier	104	676	2	674	6.5	93	KS
Phil Bates	66	417	4	413	6.3	39	MU
Turner Gill	55	253	54	199	3.6	18	KS

SCORING

	TD	FG	2-PAT	PAT	pts.
Kevin Seibel	—	3-10	—	28-29	37
Roger Craig	4	—	—	—	24
Irving Fryar	3	—	—	—	18
Mike Rozier	4	—	—	—	24
Jamie Williams	4	—	—	—	24
Phil Bates	5	—	—	—	30
Todd Brown	2	—	—	—	12
Mark Moravec	2	—	—	—	12

SCORE BY QUARTERS

OPPONENTS	16	30	9	20	—	75
NEBRASKA	38	51	73	65	—	227

PASS RECEIVING

	caught	yds.	avg.	TD
Ja Williams	22	282	12.8	4
Roger Craig	10	81	8.1	0
Anthony Steels	9	116	12.9	1

PASSING

	Att-Com	Yds.	Int.	TD
Turner Gill	66-34	480	2	7
Mark Mauer	46-22	270	3	3

Game Stats

TEAM	KU	Neb.
First downs rushing	11	13
First downs passing	9	3
First downs penalty	0	0
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	20	16
Attempts rushing	53	55
Yards gained rushing	226	347
Yards lost rushing	44	7
NET YARDS RUSHING	182	340
Passes attempted	23	10
Passes completed	10	4
Passes had intercepted	3	1
NET YARDS PASSING	142	37
Total plays	76	65
TOTAL YARDAGE	324	377
Interception return yards	0	34
Punts-Yards	4-156	5-237
Punting average	39.0	47.4
Punts blocked	0	0
Punt returns-yards	1-9	1-9
Kickoff returns-yds.	2-28	2-39
Penalties-yards	2-15	5-40
Fumbles-fumbles lost	2-2	2-2

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing

Kansas — Seurer 8 carries for 26 yards, 0 TD, 24 yard long gain; Jones 7 for 17, 0, 4; Mack 15 for 40, 0, 13; Taylor 22 for 98, 0, 15.

NEBRASKA — Craig 7 carries for 17 yards, 0 TD, 6 yard long gain; Bates 14 for 86, 2, 16; Rozier 22 for 179, 1, 49; Gill 7 for 34, 0, 9; Steels 3 for 16, 0, 19; Hill 1 for 4, 0, 4; Brumcardi 1 for 4, 0, 4.

Passing

Kansas — Seurer 10 completions, 23 attempts for 142 yards, 3 int., 21 yard long play.

NEBRASKA — Mauer 0 completions, 1 attempts for 0 yards, 0 int., 0 TD; 0 yard long play; Gill 4 completions, 9 attempts for 37 yards, 1 int., 1 TD, 17 yard long play.

Receiving

Kansas — Johnson 2 catches for 29 yards, 0 TD, 15 yard long play; Napers 5 for 65, 0, 18; Rastin 2 for 42, 0, 21; Taylor 1 for 6, 0, 6.

NEBRASKA — J. Williams 3 catches for 29 yards, 1 TD, 17 yard long play; Steels 1 for 8, 0, 8.

Punting

Kansas — Scribner 4 kicks for 156 yards, 39.0 avg., 46 yard longest.

NEBRASKA — Campbell 5 kicks for 237 yards, 47.4 avg., 58 yard longest.

Kick Returns

Kansas — Green 1 punt return for 9 yards, 1 kickoff return for 12 yards; Johnson 1 kickoff return for 16 yards; Demeritte 1 interception return for 0 yards.

NEBRASKA — Lyday 1 punt return for 9 yards; Lindquist 1 interception return for 3 yards; Steels 1 kickoff return for 18 yards; Lewis 1 interception return for 31 yards; Wilkening 1 kickoff return for 21 yards; Weber 1 interception return for 0 yards.

Defensive

Kansas — Erless 2 unassisted, 2 assists for 4; Wilbers 1-1 for 2; Smith 4-2 for 6; Thompson 1-3 for 4; Horn 3-2 for 5; Alexander 1-1 for 2; Neighbors 1-0 for 1; Parrish 0-1 for 1; Powers 0-0 for 0; C. Alexander 1-1 for 2; Toburen 8-2 for 10; McNorton 10-3 for 13; Simmons 1-0 for 1; Arbanas 5-1 for 6; Coleman 1-0 for 1; Demeritte 0-2 for 2; Foote 3-0 for 3; Patterson 1-1 for 2; Wagoner 1-1 for 2; Colter 3-3 for 6; Gentry 3-1 for 4; McNeely 4-0 for 4; Kellmeyer 1-0 for 1.

NEBRASKA — Damkroger 9 unassisted, 5 assists for 14; J. Williams 11-1 for 12; T. Williams 5-5 for 10; Merrell 6-2 for 8; Waechter 5-4 for 9; Felici 3-2 for 5; Weber 0-0 for 0; Gdowski 0-0 for 0; Hineline 0-0 for 0; Stromath 0-0 for 0; Eridder 0-0 for 0; Herrmann 1-1 for 2; Evans 8-11 for 19; Knox 0-0 for 0; McWhirter 0-0 for 0; Seibel 1-1 for 2; Lindquist 4-2 for 6; Sims 4-1 for 5; Krejci 6-3 for 9; Lewis 1-4 for 5; Iodence 0-0 for 0; Van Norman 0-0 for 0; Lyday 0-0 for 0.

The Way We See It...



Bob Barry

sports director, KTVY,
Oklahoma City (play-by-play,
Cowboy Sports Network)

"Although OSU's defense is not real physical, it's quick and it's solid. Jimmy Johnson is a tremendous defensive mind. He's put together a defense that's close to being as good as anybody's. The problem is the offense. It's been pathetic, not because it hasn't given good effort, but because it's young and doesn't have quite the athletes the defense has. Oklahoma State cannot get in a scoring contest with anybody. If the Cowboys can keep teams in the 10 to 20 point range, they have a chance, because they have an outstanding kicking game to go with an outstanding defense. Picking from the heart, I'm going to say **Oklahoma State 21, Nebraska 19**. You don't expect it to happen, but who would have expected Iowa State to lose at Kansas State?"

Mark Ahmann

KAMI Radio, Cozad

"Season begins to take an orange flavor. KU win had to be earned and will make NU better for the final three outings against Oklahoma State, Iowa State and Oklahoma. **Nebraska 31, OSU 7**."

Bill Connors

sports editor, Tulsa World

"Oklahoma State's defense is good against the run, particularly straight ahead. Even for a power team like Nebraska, it'll be hard to run over a defense with Ricky Young and Mike Green at linebackers. Green may be an even more spectacular linebacker than Young, but Young rarely makes a mistake. This may be a game where Turner Gill enjoys success throwing the ball. I'll predict **Nebraska 21, Oklahoma State 6**. But the Huskers will win more decisively, if they find a way to control the ball."

Dave Webber

sports director, WOWT-TV,
Omaha

"I know the Missouri and Kansas games build character, but they don't build my character — they hurt my heart. The Kansas game tired me out. I was exhausted just watching it. I don't know if I can take anymore. All the talking Tom Osborne did all week about Kansas being good and nobody bought it...the fans, the oddsmakers, not even the players. This is an age where the have-nots suddenly have and the traditional powers are finding out about leaner times. The Big Eight is really balanced. Even the bottom two teams can beat you. Everybody thought two losses could never win a national title. Who knows? It's a weird year. Oklahoma State could be a real pit for Nebraska, which seems to bring out the best in kickers. Teams kick more against the Huskers than the June Taylor Dancers. If Kansas can kick five field goals, Oklahoma State can kick four. **Nebraska 28, Oklahoma State 12**."

Steve Anderson

sports director, KHAS-TV
Hastings

"You figure the 'Pokes are worth a couple of Larry Roach field goals, resulting from Husker offensive miscues. Overall, however, OSU's offense will be as ineffective as the last five Husker opponents. Look for Nebraska to open up its passing game early to offset a meat-grinding 'Poke defense. A quick NU lead seems essential for two reasons: (1) history dictates a tight, low-scoring affair and (2) Oklahoma State is much like Missouri — the Cowboys play with a lot of emotion and the longer you let them stay in a game, the better they become. **Nebraska 17, Oklahoma State 6**."

Ron Holt

sports editor, Stillwater News-Press

"The Cowboys' defense is improving each week and putting a lot of pressure on the opposing quarterback. But to beat a team like Nebraska, OSU's young offense needs more consistency than it's shown. It needs to keep the defense off the field more and probably is a year or two away from being able to do that. Despite the momentum created by the Missouri game, it will still be an upset for OSU to win. The Cowboys would have to play their best offensive and defensive game of the year. **Nebraska 17, OSU 7**."

Ken Hambleton

Lincoln Journal and Star

"If Nebraska gets off to the same slow start it has in the last two games, Oklahoma State could find itself a big upset winner for the second straight week. Huskers will go to the air again, and probably it will be this week in Stillwater. **Nebraska 33, Oklahoma State 6**. (But don't say I didn't warn you of an upset.)"

The Huskers Say....

Huskers Illustrated

"So Nebraska isn't blowing everyone into the next ozone layer? Is it time to push the panic button? No, it's time to realize that the Cornhuskers are saving perfection for the games that count the most. The offense finds itself again this week in Stillwater, just in time to light the fuse for Iowa State and Oklahoma. A sixth straight win won't be easy, but it'll be impressive. **Nebraska 27, Oklahoma State 9**."

1981 Big 8 Standings

Last Week's Scores

Nebraska 31, Kansas 15	CONF.
Oklahoma 49, Colorado 0	W L T
Kansas State 10, Iowa State 7	4 0 0
Oklahoma State 16, Missouri 12	2 0 1

This Week's Games

Nebraska at Oklahoma State	2 1 0
Oklahoma at Kansas State	2 1 1
Missouri at Colorado	1 3 0
Kansas at Iowa State	1 3 0

	CONF.				ALL					
	W	L	T	PF	PA	W	L	T	PF	PA
Nebraska.....	4	0	0	145	18	6	2	0	227	75
Oklahoma.....	2	0	1	101	14	4	2	1	218	96
Okl State.....	2	1	0	46	30	5	2	0	113	85
Iowa State.....	2	1	1	65	40	5	2	1	164	135
Missouri.....	1	3	0	83	69	5	3	0	197	95
Colorado.....	1	3	0	21	135	2	6	0	103	244
Kansas.....	1	3	0	46	110	5	3	0	118	163
Kansas St....	1	3	0	40	131	2	6	0	112	214

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